

CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH

MEETING DATE: October 3, 2005

DEPARTMENT ID NUMBER: FD 05-013

Council/Agency Meeting Held: _____	City Clerk's Signature _____
Deferred/Continued to: _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Conditionally Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Denied	
Council Meeting Date: October 3, 2005	Department ID Number: FD 05-013

CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

SUBMITTED TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

SUBMITTED BY: *Penelope Culbreth* PENNELOPE CULBRETH-GRAFT, City Administrator

PREPARED BY: DUANE OLSON, Fire Chief *DO*

SUBJECT: APPROVE ACCEPTANCE OF FEDERAL EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT AGENCY ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS
GRANT

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2005 SEP 20 P 3:02

Statement of Issue, Funding Source, Recommended Action, Alternative Action(s), Analysis, Environmental Status, Attachment(s)

Statement of Issue: City Council approval is requested for acceptance of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Assistance to Firefighters Grant award for wildland firefighting equipment.

Funding Source: The FEMA grant amount is \$77,932 and requires a matching amount of \$19,483. Funding for the matching amount is available in City's Equipment Replacement Fund, account 10065203.83700.

Recommended Action: MOTION TO:

Approve and authorize City staff to accept the FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant award and expend matching funds.

Alternative Action(s): Do not accept the grant award or approve expending matching funds.

Analysis: For the past five years, FEMA has made funding available to local fire departments as part of its Federal Assistance to Firefighters Grants Program. The purpose of this grant is to enhance the ability of fire departments to protect the health and safety of the public, as well as that of firefighting personnel. This funding can be used for various purposes, including the purchase of equipment to upgrade existing operations.

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Analysis: (continued)

The first two years of the program the Fire Department was unsuccessful in obtaining grant funding through this competitive process. In the third and fourth years of the program (2003 and 2004), application was made and funding was obtained for physical fitness program exercise equipment (\$24,500) and firefighter turnouts, the protective outerwear used during firefighting operations (\$75,516).

On September 12, 2005, the Fire Department received notice from FEMA that it was successful in obtaining \$77,932 for the purchase of wildland firefighting equipment. This funding requires a 20% match of \$19,483, which is included in the Fire Department budget for FY 2005/06. The total of \$97,415 will be used to purchase the following wildland equipment:

- Fire Shelters
- Brush Coats and Pants
- Wildland Boots
- VHF Radios
- Weather Units

As part of the California master mutual aid system, the City of Huntington Beach Fire Department annually responds to wildland incidents. This has included 34 multi-jurisdictional wildland fires over the past eight years.

In spite of the tremendous amount of participation in wildland fire incidents, the Department's essential personal protective equipment and related safety gear for this type of firefighting is outdated and needs replacement. The current fire shelters are over 10 years old and need to be replaced, the brush coats and pants are also over 10 years old, personnel do not possess wildland boots, and VHF radios and weather units are non-existent.

With this grant funding the City will be able to purchase this important equipment. In doing so, the Fire Department will be better equipped to respond to this type of emergency.

City Council approval to accept the grant award and expend the matching funds is requested.

Environmental Status: None.

Attachment(s):

City Clerk's Page Number	No.	Description
—		None.

RCA Author: Olson/Pelletier/Justen